

Appln. of: KOZLOWSKI, Joachim
Serial No.: 09/830,649
Filed: April 30, 2001

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 5-7 and 9-29 are pending.

Claims 1-2, 5-6, 16, 24 and 25 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103 as being unpatentable over Suzuki in view of Kruse.

In accordance with the suggestion of the Examiner in a telephone discussion today, this amendment is being filed with an RCE to allow new consideration of independent claim 1 that has been currently amended to include the limitations of claim 8 which had previously been withdrawn from consideration. As amended, claim 1 reads on the species of Figs. 8 and 9.

As amended, claim 1 distinguishes over both Suzuki and Kruse, as neither reference discloses or suggests a machine knife "wherein, at the knife tip, the blade holder is recessed with respect to the knife support and is shaped in such a way that the blade covers the blade holder over its full height and forms a contact face used for support in relation to the cutout." Neither reference discloses or suggests a blade that covers the blade holder over its full height or a blade that forms a contact face used for support in relation to the cutout of the knife support. The blade 40 of Suzuki only covers a portion of the height of blade holder 34 and does not form a contact face for support in relation to the cutout of a knife support. See Suzuki, Fig. 3. The blade 16 of Kruse only covers a portion of the height of blade holder 11 and does not form a contact face for support in relation to the cutout of a knife support. See Kruse, Fig. 2.

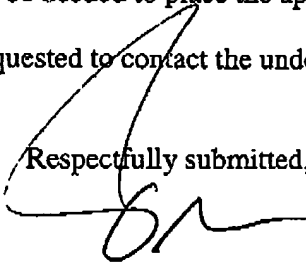
In view of these amendments to claim 1, it is believed that claim 1 is allowable over the art of record and it is respectfully requested that the rejections of claim 1 be withdrawn.

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The remaining claims all depend from claim 1 and are believed allowable for the same reasons as given with respect to claim 1. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that these remaining rejections be withdrawn as well.

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, allowance of this case is earnestly solicited. Should anything else be needed to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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